



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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INFO AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 MOSCOW 21040

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL UR US PK AF
SUBJECT: VISIT OF PDPA GENERAL SECRETARY NAJIB
TO MOSCOW

REFS: (A) KABUL 1648, (B) MOSCOW 20984

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

SUMMARY

2. MOSCOW USED THE SHORT VISIT OF PDPA
GENERAL SECRETARY NAJIB TO REPEAT ITS
INTEREST IN AN AFGHAN SETTLEMENT AND WITH-
DRAWAL OF ITS TROOPS, ALBEIT WITHOUT OFFERING
ANY NEW STEPS THAT WOULD FACILITATE PROGRESS.
GORBACHEV NOTED THAT CORDOVEZ'S EFFORTS MIGHT
ACHIEVE SOME SUCCESS IN THE NEAR FUTURE,
BUT GAVE NO DETAILS. INSTEAD HE EXPRESSED
REGRET AT THE DISCUSSION OF INTERNAL
AFGHAN MATTERS IN INTERNATIONAL FORA AND,
ALONG WITH NAJIB, LASHED OUT AT THE U.S.
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END SUMMARY.

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BRIEF ROUND OF MEETINGS IN MOSCOW

3. ACCOMPANIED BY MOST OF THE PDPA POLITBURO (REF A), NAJIB ARRIVED IN MOSCOW DECEMBER 11 ON AN "OFFICIAL FRIENDLY VISIT." HE LEFT MOSCOW FOR TASHKENT DECEMBER 13 AND DEPARTED THE USSR DECEMBER 14. ACCORDING TO TASS, HE HAD A ONE-ON-ONE AND A PLENARY MEETING WITH GORBACHEV, AS WELL AS A DINNER DECEMBER 13.

CONTINUED HINTING AT POSSIBLE PROGRESS TOWARD A SETTLEMENT

4. ACCORDING TO TASS, GORBACHEV AND NAJIB IN THEIR MEETINGS:

- "CAME TO THE CONVICTION THAT AT THE PRESENT TIME THERE ARE REAL PATHS TO THE QUICK AND CARDINAL NORMALIZATION OF THE SITUATION AROUND AFGHANISTAN";

- STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE NATIONAL RECONCILIATION DIALOGUE WITH "POLITICAL FORCES IN

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- AFGHANISTAN AND OUTSIDE" AND THE AFGHAN-PAK NEGOTIATIONS THROUGH U.N. GENERAL SECRETARY'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE CORDOVEZ;

- NOTED THAT NORMALIZATION OF THE SITUATION WOULD CREATE THE CONDITIONS FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF SOVIET FORCES -- WITNESS THE RETURN HOME OF SIX DIVISIONS.

BUT OFFERING NOTHING NEW
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5. WHILE VAGUELY OPTIMISTIC, GORBACHEV AND NAJIB MENTIONED NO NEW STEPS ON THEIR PART THAT MIGHT FACILITATE A SETTLEMENT. INSTEAD THEY LASHED OUT AT U.S.-LED IMPERIALISM AND REGIONAL REACTION FOR:

- FAILING TO MEET SOVIET AND AFGHAN
- COMPROMISES AND DESIRING TO PROLONG
- THE WAR;

- TRYING TO TURN "SCARED REFUGEES
- INTO HIRED KILLERS."

6. IN HIS TOAST TO NAJIB, GORBACHEV GAVE ANOTHER PLUG FOR CORDOVEZ NOTING THAT HIS EFFORTS MIGHT "ALLOW IN THE NEAR FUTURE ACHIEVEMENT OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND DECISIVE AGREEMENTS." AT THE SAME TIME, GORBACHEV REGRETTE THE DISCUSSION OF

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INTERNAL AFGHAN MATTERS IN INTERNATIONAL
FORA.

BILATERAL COOPERATION

7. DURING THE MEETINGS, GORBACHEV AND
NAJIB ALSO EXPRESSED FULL SATISFACTION
AT THE HIGH LEVEL OF BILATERAL RELATIONS
AND NOTED THAT FURTHER COOPERATION WAS
POSSIBLE. ALSO NAJIB PREDICTABLY VOICED
SUPPORT FOR SOVIET ARMS CONTROL AND REGIONAL
INITIATIVES.

COMMENT

8. TASS ACCOUNTS OF THE NAJIB VISIT SUGGEST
MORE OF THE SAME FROM THE SOVIETS IN
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AFGHANISTAN: GENERAL EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
IN A SETTLEMENT AND PROFESSED OPTIMISM FOR

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CORDOVEZ'S EFFORTS, BUT NO SERIOUS
PROPOSALS (REF B).

9. KABUL MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. HARTMAN

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